



Rural Hospital Receives Much Needed Technology Upgrades

Rock County Hospital located in Bassett, Nebraska needed to transition to an electronic health record system to allow them to qualify for additional Medicare reimbursement. Their dictation/transcription equipment was dated and becoming unreliable from both a provider and a facility standpoint.

USDA Rural Development has provided more than \$86,000 in grant funds over the past 12 years. The grant funds were leveraged with more than \$80,000 from the hospital, providing for the purchase of the much needed equipment. Funds were used to purchase eight desktop computers, four laptop computers, and to implement phase 2 of the Physicians Documentation Operating System with digital compatible phones. Rock County Hospital was then able to implement a digital transcription system allowing medical providers to phone in transcriptions from any location. The new system is not only time saving, but also more cost effective by decreasing the processing turnover rate by four days. The funds also allowed the hospital to purchase a new 150 KW emergency generator to replace the one damaged by lightning, purchase a 100 KW standby generator, and build an auxiliary building to house the standby generator in order to comply with state regulations.

The assistance provided by USDA Rural Development has allowed Rock County Hospital to continue their goal of providing exemplary physical, emotional, and spiritual healthcare and continuing their legacy of caring.

Obligation Amount: \$29,530 Grant, \$9,500 Grant, \$47,300 Grant

Date of Obligation: 8/2004-9/2010

Congressional District: Representative Smith District 3; Senators Fischer and Sasse

Partners: Rock County Hospital

Demographics: Population of about 1,700

Impact: New equipment and technology upgrades to allow the hospital to better serve their patients.
